JOSHUA LEDERBERG

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My faults as correspondent.

You were good enough to send me early copies of your papers on fluorescent staining of chromosomes. I don't have to tell you what an impact they are having on human cytogenetics! Please don't misinterpret my negligence in responding to your note as anything other than that. I was most interested in the publications and much appreciate your having sent them.

You may know that Elliott Levinthal and Len Herzenberg are pushing the "Cell Separator" machine to what MEXE soon be a useful threshold. My own interests in automation these days are focused or mechanized inference (the DENDRAL system) and its application to organic analysis by GLC and mass spectrometry. I will send you some papers shortly. We are also trying to embody some of this in a system for large scale screening of body fluid samples for metabolic idiosyncrasies expressed in qualitatively interesting outputs (contra the usual clinical chemistry on quantitative measures of a few well known metabolites.)

I am sorry it has been so long since we have had a chance to talk.

All best wishes.

John

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